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ACIS - 660/88  
22 September 1988OCA FILE SSCI  
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MEMORANDUM TO: [redacted]

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Office of Congressional Affairs

FROM: [redacted]

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Arms Control Intelligence Staff

SUBJECT:

Comments on SSCI Proposal for START  
Briefings

1. I have reviewed the START work schedule proposed by Gary Sojka and Ed Levine of the SSCI staff. I do not believe their scheduled list of nine sessions would serve the intended purpose--to provide the SSCI staff member with detailed background information on the START treaty and all aspects of Soviet strategic forces. In addition, I have serious concerns about Intelligence Community representatives providing briefings on aspects of the START treaty which are still under negotiation with the Soviets or are subject to decision within the US Government. [redacted]

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2. The SSCI proposal calls for us to provide a treaty overview which outlines the major verification provisions which have been either accepted or are being considered. Such a policy overview would be appropriately given by the State Department or ACDA. We have always resisted, and must continue to resist, discussing the status of current negotiations. [redacted]

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3. The SSCI proposal does not include a set of introductory briefings on Soviet strategic systems and operations. Such information is critical if the staff members are to understand many of the elements of the draft START treaty. [redacted]

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4. In place of the SSCI draft work schedule, attached is a proposed agenda of ten weekly briefing sessions. This agenda is modeled after the briefings provided to the Committee last summer on the INF Treaty. That process, while requiring considerable time and effort, worked extremely well. This agenda also has the advantage of being already coordinated informally within the Intelligence Community.

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5. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact me on

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Attachment:  
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**START BRIEFING AGENDA****Week 1****Soviet Strategic Force Doctrine and Goals**

- Soviet views on deterrence, warfighting, and the role of strategic weapons
- views on the current strategic force balance
- arms control as a means of constraining US force modernization and to facilitate planning

**Week 2****Strategic Rocket Forces**

- current status and capabilities of silo-based ICBMs
- current status and capabilities of mobile ICBMs
- mobile ICBM operations
- reserve ICBMs and refire/soft-launch capability
- ICBMs in pre-flight development

**Week 3****Submarine Missile Forces**

- current status and capabilities of SSBNs and SLBMs
- current status and capabilities of SSNs/SSGNs and SLCMs
- future SLBMs and SLCMs

**Week 4****Strategic Aviation**

- status and capabilities of Soviet heavy bombers
- status and capabilities of ALCMs and carriers
- future aircraft to include Stealth
- future ALCMs

**Week 5****Trends in Soviet Strategic Forces**

- overall triad modernization and potential force mix
- counterforce capabilities
- START
- no START

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Week 6

Collection Capabilities

- systems
- collection strategies
- new initiatives

Week 7

Monitoring Judgements

- strengths
- weaknessess
- "intractable" monitoring problems

Week 8

Impact of Cooperative Measures

- type and possible contribution to monitoring

Week 9

Potential for Soviet Breakout

- additional production
- ballistic missile reserves
- LRCM loadings
- RV loading

Week 10

Incentives for Cheating

- political
- military

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